# Public Works (1896) Department.

Irrigation.

ORDINARY. M.S.

-1-

6-sets

G.O. No. 418 ~~V~~. I

DATED 13-5-1896.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Timber. The Resident in Travancore requested to enquire of the Travancore Government and report on certain points in connection with the disposal of the surplus — at Periyar.

## BACK PAPERS.

| Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Department. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |

## FURTHER PAPERS.

| Department. | Date. | G.O. | No. | Departm |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |

செப்பனிடுபவர் பெயர் A. [illegible]

செப்பனிடுவதற்காக எடுத்துக் கொள்ளப்பட்ட நாள் ஜனவரி 99.

செப்பனிட்டு முடித்த நாள் பிப்ரவரி 99.

| | |
|---|---|
| சரிபார்க்கும் மு. வா. எ. கையொப்பம் | ஆராய்ச்சி உதவியாளர் கையொப்பம் |

**Public Works (1896) Department.**

**CURRENT No.** 270 S/P

Mis

*Order*

*From* The Govt P W D

*No.* 418 S

*Dated* 13 May 1896

*Received*

*Enclosures*

*Spare copies*

SUBJECT.

Inferior timber and second hand wrought timber – The Resident in Travancore directed to commun[icate] with the Travancore Govt to asc[ertain] whether the Govt will exempt – from duty and whether they will have any objection to the proposal of the Supt of works reg the navigation of the Lake and whether they will take steps to prevent trespass

K PAPERS.

| | Date. |
|---|---|
| | |

FURTHER P

| No. | Date. |
|---|---|
| R 1839 | 16-5-97 |
| R 55 Md | 7-4-97 |
| R 62 Md | 8-5-97 |
| I 58 Md | 18-5-97 |
| R 65 Md | 18-5-97 |

3

Public Works Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

---

Read the following letter

From the Superintendent of Works, No. I Periyar Division, dated 25th March 1896, No. 234 C. E.:-

With reference to the Travancore Resident's letter No. 85 of 11th January 1896 communicated to me with G.O No. 357 W dated 29th January 1896, I have the honour to inform you that the first piece of timber - a junglewood dug-out 4 years old - that I have sold, has been stopped at the Travancore frontier and an exorbitant duty of about Rs. 15 demanded and paid.

2. You will see that the correspondence leading up to the G.O. above-quoted evidently intends that our sal[illegible] jungle timber shall be unfettered by duty.

3. I beg that you will be good enough to move that [illegible]ay be altogether exempted. It may be pointed out to the Travancore Government that by stopping our timber they merely compel us to keep it unsold inside the Periyar area (which under the lease we are entitled to do) and to use it ourselves for firewood. They thus do the British Government harm and in no way benefit themselves. To put it in the converse way the exemption I suggest will benefit the British Government, by enabling them to get rid of their surplus stock, while the Travancore Government will be no worse off than if we retain the timber in the Periyar area and eventually use it all up for fuel.

4. I may add that the Travancore Government have never replied to para 4 of my letter to the Chief Engineer No. 310 C.E of 6th February 1895 regarding the surplus second hand wrought timber. The result is that on now attempting to sell it I have failed because would-be purchasers, of whom [illegible]

A

presented themselv-es, have been deterred by the Travancore duty. I would ask that if possible this also might be allowed to pass free rather than we should be driven to use it as fuel.

5. While on this subject I would take the opportunity to request your attention to the trespassing committed by the Travancore timber contractors within our area. They have always shown a tendency to trespass, even when the full establishment of the works were here. This tendency has become much more marked of late. I have myself detected many flagrant cases in the last 2 or 3 ~~months~~ weeks, and there is no doubt that it will greatly increase when the establishment ~~is~~ has all gone. The proper procedure against trespasses would be I presume to prosecute them in the Travancore courts, a most undesirable proceeding. I would therefore suggest that the Travancore Government may be asked to put all possible pressure on their local Depot Superintendent and contractors to prevent their cutting timber below the 155 contour line. I would also advise that no person except the superior officers of the Madras and Travancore Governments and the Thekady Sluice establishment be allowed on any pretext to navigate the lake. By thus preventing the removal of logs by water the Travancore contractors will at all events be limited in their trespasses to the Thekady arm of the lake in the immediate vicinity of the road.

6. There is a considerable quantity of timber involved, which will be ~~available~~ invaluable to us hereafter both for the maintenance of the buildings, floating plant and sluices, and for fuel for the launch.

7. There is yet one more point in connection with this matter on which I would ask permission to add a word. The lease grants us 100 acres "in the immediate vicinity" of the lake to be retained for the 999 years. It is not stated that this 100 acres is necessarily to be in one block, and as it must from the first have been foreseen that houses would be required

both at Periyar and Thekady the presumption is that the 100 acres is divisible. As the houses at Periyar and Thekady occupy - with their immediate surroundings which I am demarcating with elephant trenches - an area of less than 5 acres, there remain still 95 acres to which we are entitled. The object of this provision in the lease was probably to give room not only for the houses but for timber and fuel after the submersion of the lake area has - as it eventually will - destroyed the timber and fuel therein. I have therefore chosen and am demarcating a piece of forest land near Thekady. I have communicated the fact to the Travancore Conservator of Forests but have not yet had a reply.

---

Order thereon:. No. 418 I dt 13th May 1896

The Resident in Travancore will inquire of the Travancore Government and report on the following points:-

(a) Whether, under the circumstances reported in paras 3 and 4 of the Superintendent of Works' letter, that Government will exempt inferior timber and second hand wrought timber from duty.

(b) Whether they will have any objection to the proposal of the Superintendent of Works regarding the navigation of the lake and whether they will take steps to prevent trespass.

(c) Whether they will have any objection to offer to the selection of 95 acres of land demarcated by the Superintendent of Works near Thekady to make up the 100 acres in the immediate vicinity of the lake referred to in the lease.

(True Extract)

[signature]

Under Secretary to Govt., P. W. D.,
Irrigation Branch

...ident in Travancore
...the Political Department.
...ntending Engineer, VI Circle.
...ngineer for Irrigation. ✓

*When given for copying*______
*When copied*______
*When examined*______
*When signed*______ 191

6

Read again G.O., No. , dated
191 .

Current No.

Enclosures to C. No.

Orders of Government.

Letters to Government.

Statement with ditto.

Papers not fixed up, being meant for despatch in original.

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | A | A | A | A | A | A |

*N.B.*—

A = Copy in full.
B = Not to be copied.
F = Copy abstract only.
G = Copy heading only

12-2-99
56